

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, May 19, 2014, 4:30pm, at the Lilly Nature Center. Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Jeff Love and Aimee Jacobsen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Lee Booth, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Also present was Council President, Ann Hunt. Absent was Park Board President, Pat Flannelly.

Karen convened the Board at 4:31pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the April 21, 2014 meeting. John motioned to approve the minutes. Jeff seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report had been distributed

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- Softball league play started on Monday, May 5. So far, we have had two days of canceled games due to rain.
- Currently working on entertainment for Global Fest. Tanny, who was in charge of entertainment in the past, has taken a new job. The Health department has issued new requirements for temporary food vendors, similar to those at Global Fest. I am currently working on deciphering the new requirements.
- On May 28, all Park & Recreation employees will be trained in CPR/AED. The department will split their training between the morning and afternoon session.
- Alpha Xi Delta has donated \$1,066.44 for a spinner bowl, which will be placed at Happy Hollow Park.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Inspections are available
- Finished opening parks
- Prepared for the Farmers Market
- Prepared the Margerum Fountain for its seasonal turn-on
- Pool is ready to go, inspection is tomorrow and it opens Friday
- Trying to keep up with mowing the parks

**Recreation** – Chris reported on the following:

- The summer recreation staff has been hired for the pool, playground and tennis programs.
- Pool staff have been making the final preparations for the pool opening. We have been working on setting up a new point of sale (POS) computer sales register for the pool. This has been a group project requiring Cheryl, Sue, Lee and his staff, the I.T. dept. This will, hopefully, enable us to better serve our pool customers.
- Splash Bash is our official opening of the summer season and end of school. Splash Bash will be held Friday, May 23, from 1-4pm with a special admission price of \$1.00. Although the schools will be open until 1:30pm, it was determined we would keep our advertised opening time.
- Public swim will be from 1:00-4:50pm and 6:00-7:50pm. The Adult Lap Swim program will begin Tuesday, May 27, and will continue through the end of the season, which is Sunday, August 10.

- Cheryl and the office staff have been working entering the class code information. Cheryl has also worked with the Clerk-Treasurer to allow our accounts receivable and payables to work with the City's new Munis system. There will be more cooperative work with the Clerk's office as each level of the new computer system is installed. Registration for summer programs has begun. Some swim lessons for the little ones have filled as well as some tennis lessons.

**Morton Center** – Bess reported on the following:

- Mor Danc'n Recital – 568 tickets sold, 187 dancers participated = 755 in attendance. We sold 37 less tickets in 2014, than in 2013. However, dance registration was at 345 in 2014, compared to 334 in 2013 (both registration numbers were pulled from the Winter/Spring enrollments).
- Winter/Spring numbers: 1,433 enrollments, up from Fall 2013 which saw 1,285 enrollments.
- Joe and I spoke about the Trail system and Morton at the PURA meeting on May 5 – it was received well.
- Morton Mural Project: The mural, "Dinner with Kandinsky", is now on display on the south end of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor hallway. There was a great article in the J&C about the project, published on Saturday, May 3.
- IU Arnett Health and Safety Fair: We had a Morton table at this event. It was held on Saturday, May 17, from 11am-3pm. Roughly 800 people attended, so we had very steady traffic at our table. We also had an interactive element called "Healthy Hands Mural". Attendees were invited to trace their hand on a 6'x3' sheet of paper and write one thing they would choose to do for their health. They could then decorate it with markers we brought. We had so many hands that we almost ran out of space. The Purdue Preschool has officially moved out of Morton and are in their new space at Lyles Porter Hall, corner of University and Harrison, 715 Clinic Drive, West Lafayette, IN, 47907.

**Stewardship** – Dan reported on the following:

- Arbor Day was April 25 and we planted trees along the Northwest Greenway Trail with the assistance of the Mayor, 8 Purdue students, WL Tree Friends members and the public. One of the trees was planted in memory of Nancy Kriebel, with some of her family members present.
- We now have 20 new educational, nature-related posters for the kiosks around the parks. I worked with two Purdue Communication classes this past semester to develop these. Examples are on the tables.
- Our fourth MindBOGgling event was held last Saturday at the Celery Bog Nature Area. We had educational programs and displays, nature walks, kids' activities, and a natural fabrics art exhibit in the classroom. We added a food truck this year that went over very well. Considering the cold start to the day, and the rain in the early afternoon, we felt we had a good turnout. There were 325 people counted who came inside the Nature Center.
- Finally, before this event on Saturday, we had an opportunity to recognize one of our most dedicated volunteers, Sam Postlethwait. His picture, one of his quotes, and a plaque, were permanently added to the walls near the library in the Nature Center.

**Old Business****Northwestern Heights Proposal**

Ann Hunt presented pictures she had taken this morning, to the Board members, giving them an overall view of the area in question, along with an explanation of the area. Ann briefly discussed her role as the liaison with the Northwestern Neighborhood Association, in which she was voted for at the Executive Committee's meeting at the end of March. Ann provided various dates the park has been discussed, noting discussion for planning a park began three years ago. In August 2012, at the end of the summer neighborhood picnic, rough plans were presented for the park, with 22 attendees approving the proposed plans. On March 7, 2013, the Executive Committee decided to move forward with the park. On July 30, 2013 there was a meeting at the library, which Ann would describe as favorable – there was no vote that day. On March 27, 2014, the Executive Committee met and approved unanimously with a 6-0 vote to move forward with the park. The Neighborhood Association votes and approves the members of the Executive Committee. The committee consists of the following members:

- President, John Polles
- Past President, Karen Franzmeier
- Secretary, Paul Niles
- Treasurer, Dale Stalard
- Robin Pickett
- William McHenry

Karen asked Ann if all of the Neighborhood Association had been contacted/surveyed regarding the park. Ann stated it was in the newsletter and there were a variety of responses received. There are 3-5 newsletters distributed throughout the year, with the summer months being the most active. Outside of the summer months, there is generally one sent in the fall and one during the spring. Discussion followed. Karen asked Ann to talk them through the drawing submitted. Don Franzmeier spoke on behalf of the surveying that took place and the equipment proposed for the area. It has since been determined, for safety reasons; there is not enough space/clearance for the original equipment considered for the area. Aside from the play equipment, the Association would still like to have the original proposed benches placed in the area. Ann also reminded the Board, there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood, so there is no place to pull over, off the streets, for strollers/and walkers.

Karen opened the discussion to members of the neighborhood in attendance.

- Lynn McHenry, 1011 Oakhurst Drive (Favors the park)
- Don Franzmeier, 1535 Summit Drive (Favors the park)
- Greg Boyer, 1523 Summit Drive (Favors the park)
- Mireille (Mimi) Boutin (provided letter), 1536 Summit Drive (Opposes the park)
- Tom McHenry, 1011 Oakhurst Drive (Favors the park)
- Diane Newman (sent letter previously), 1526 Sheridan Road (Favors the park)
- Nina Kirkpatrick, 1156 Hillcrest Road (Favors the park)
- Uli Walther (provided letter), 1536 Summit Drive (Opposes the park)

- Rebecca Brody (sent letter – unable to attend), 1701 Summit Drive (Remains neutral to the project, but believes the family closest to the area should have the final word)
- Janice Holihan (sent letter – unable to attend), 1700 Summit Drive, (Opposes the park)
- Chad & Abigail Zahner (sent letter - unable to attend), 1635 Northwestern Avenue (Opposes the park)
- Hasantha & Daya Jayaratna (sent letter – unable to attend), 1701 Northwestern Avenue (Opposes the park)

Karen asked Joe to briefly discuss the planning procedure that took place to develop the most recent park, Lincoln Park. Joe explained Lincoln Park was developed on a lot purchased using Community Development Block Grant Funds, and, with the assistance of our Park Foundation, we were also able to acquire an adjacent lot that had a very small, old rental property on it, which put us with two small lots on Lincoln Street. Planning and development then took place, with lots of input from the neighbors of the area and the New Chauncey Neighborhood Association. Karen thanked everyone for their information and stated that the Board would review information and discuss the proposal at the June meeting.

## **New Business**

### **WLBPR Consideration of Special Request**

David Hullinger, Deputy Chief Probation Officer for Tippecanoe County, on behalf of Judge Randy Williams, Superior Court I, along with Deidre Johnson attended to request a waiver of fees for the Tippecanoe Community Corrections Forensic Diversion program's "Annual Forensic Diversion Celebrating Sobriety Picnic". Discussion followed. Joe recommended the request be approved, due to the services their department has provided to the City over the years. John motioned to approve the request as presented. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Celery Bog App Unveiling**

Dan provided some background regarding the phone app designed for the Celery Bog Nature Area, with the help of Sam Postlethwait's library of photos, which includes upward of 65,000 photos he has taken at the Celery Bog Nature Area. Christine Masters Jach, English Professor at Purdue University, provided an overview and information pertaining to the new phone app site and her various classes' involvement with the project. Discussion followed.

### **West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:**

- Friday has been designated as a make-up day, and we are allowed to end school one hour early.
- High School graduation is set for this Friday at 7:00pm. We tried it last year, and it went over so well, we are going with it again this year.

### **Wabash River**

- Joe noted the regular meeting is later this month.

**Other**

**Morton Surplus**

Bess requested the following items be declared surplus:

- Large table
- Wooden bookshelf
- Brochure display rack with drawers
- Children's desks (2)

Aimee motioned to approve the request for surplus as presented. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**West Lafayette Library**

Pennie presented the annual request for the donation of forty single-admission pool passes for the library's summer reading program. John motioned to approve the request as presented. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Public Dining Court at the West Lafayette Farmers Market**

Joe reported The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette has awarded the West Lafayette Park Foundation a grant of \$24,160 to go towards the purchase and installation of a shade sail and concrete for the West Lafayette Farmers Market dining court. The total cost for the project is \$34,160. The West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission will be covering the \$10,000 difference.

**Pay Claims**

Aimee motioned for claims to be paid. John seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

John motioned to adjourn the meeting. Aimee seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:53pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary

*File: Cheryl/2014Park Board Minutes/Minutes#05/May2014*